

PRESIDENT: They are withdrawn.

CLERK: Senator Wesely, amendments on 2044. Withdraw those, Senator? Mr. President, Senators Wesely and Vard Johnson would move to amend the bill. (Wesely-V. Johnson amendment appears on pages 2118-22 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT: Who is going to handle that? Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Yes, I'll open, then Senator Johnson will have the rest of my time. Mr. President, members, both on 1234 and then on this amendment I've passed out materials. This deals with the question I've raised about the disclosure and accountability on LB 775 tax incentives. As you recall, we came two votes short of lifting a bill out of the Revenue Committee. And I sat down with Senator Johnson on this issue and we reached a compromise between us and have tried to deal with the concerns that Senator Johnson had. What we do with this amendment is the following, we do not have any names disclosed as far as the cost benefit ratios. We have aggregates of at least ten that are involved. We also have an employee of the fiscal office working in the Revenue Department to access information, they would be under the confidentiality statutes, attributable to the Revenue Department on this issue, and would be...have to handle the materials in the same manner the Revenue Department would under the same penalties. This would get some of the information that I've been looking for in the manner that is not quite what I wanted, but still an excellent way in which we can get an assessment on the cost benefit and different liabilities of 775 incentives that we've passed. It is information that can be used by the fiscal office as they do financial analysis, fiscal projections. It is of value to that office and to our revenue forecasting responsibilities, and it is handled in a manner that shouldn't be offensive, I think, to anybody. What we've done is we have melded the concerns I have and the concerns Senator Johnson had and worked together to come up with this amendment. I think you'll find it an agreeable attempt to try and get some more information on that issue. In addition, the Appropriations Committee is, under the bill, to look at economic development programs in addition to the tax issues I raised, and they will do a review of that at their discretion. So, with that, I'd give the rest of my time to Senator Vard Johnson, if he wants it, and be happy to answer questions, if you have any, on this amendment. Again, I passed out a thing earlier on 1234 and then